

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 150815Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2009
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 8509

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PF, XF, EG
SUBJECT: BHUTTO ON THE EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT

REF: ISLAMABAD 8487

1. BHUTTO TELEPHONED ME LAST NIGHT TO SAY HELLO AFTER HIS ABSENCE FROM PAKISTAN. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GOING OFF TO THE FLOOD AFFECTED AREAS OF HIS OWN SIND PROVINCE AND LOOKED FORWARD TO TAKING IN A DINNER AND MOVIE AT MY HOUSE UPON HIS RETURN;

2. I SAID I HOPED HE HAD HAD A GOOD TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA AND VIENNA. HE SAID HE HAD, AND WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD TOLD THE SAUDIS THAT PAKISTAN WOULD SUPPORT WHATEVER THE SAUDIS FELT WAS JUST AND PROPER IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I INTERJECTED THAT THEY HAD SUPPORTED THE RECENT EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI ACCORD AND HE SAID YES, AND THAT THAT WAS A GOOD THING. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE CALLED MY ATTENTION TO HIS LETTER TO THE SECRETARY (ISLAM-ABAD 8379) FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL WORKING UP OF THE ACCORD AND WAS GLAD THAT HIS PEOPLE AT MFA HAD GIVEN A COPY TO ME PROMPTLY. HE SAID HE HAD SENT WORD FROM VIENNA TO ASK THAT THE PAK PRESS BE BRIEFED ON THIS OCCASION TO BE MODERATE AND NOT TRY TO BE MORE ARAB THAN THE ARABS THEMSELVES, AND HE THOUGHT THIS HAD LED TO AN OBJECTIVE PRESS HERE RE ACCORD (IT HAS
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IN FACT NOT BEEN BAD).

3. IN VIEW OF THE SECRETARY'S EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH
BHUTTO JUST AS THE NEW AGREEMENT WAS REACHED, BHUTTO'S STATE-
MENT TO ME LAST NIGHT AS QUOTED THEREIN, AND THE FACT THAT THE
EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR SEES NO PROFIT HERE IN ANY HARD SELL
APPROACH, I INTEND TO BIDE MY TIME ON THE SUBJECT OF STATE
214848 UNTIL A FRESH OPPORTUNITY ARISES WHICH WOULD AGAIN MAKE
IT AN APPROPRIATE CURRENT SUBJECT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT BY A HEAD
OF GOVERNMENT. BYROADE

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